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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

As amended, the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-39 (canceled)

Please amend claim 40 shown.

40. (Currently amended) A method of aerosolizing a liquid, comprising the steps of:

electroforming an aperture plate made of palladium or a palladium alloy, the aperture plate having a front surface and a rear surface, the palladium or palladium alloy aperture plate being electroformed to form a plurality of tapered conical-shaped apertures extending from the rear surface to the front surface, the plurality of apertures being tapered to narrow from the rear surface to the front surface;

providing a fluid at the rear surface of the aperture plate; and

vibrating the aperture plate to eject the fluid through the plurality of tapered conical-shaped apertures.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein:

the electroforming step is carried out with the aperture plate being palladium cobalt.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein:

the electroforming step is carried out with the aperture plate being palladium nickel.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein:

the electroforming step is carried out with the aperture plate being about 80% palladium and about 20% nickel.

wherein the vibratory apertured element comprises an element comprised of a palladium-nickel alloy; and

wherein the apertures have a diameter of between about 1 micron and about 6 microns at the aerosol emission face.

51. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the apertures have a diameter of about 1 micron to about 5 microns at the aerosol emission face.

52. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the palladium-nickel alloy is comprised of about 80 percent of palladium and about 20 percent of nickel.

53. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 52, wherein the palladium-nickel alloy is substantially comprised of about 80 percent of palladium and about 20 percent of nickel.

54. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the alloy consists essentially of about 80 percent of palladium and about 20 percent of nickel.

55. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein the vibratory apertured element consists essentially of a unitary solid alloy element consisting of about 80 percent of palladium and about 20 percent of nickel.

56. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the unitary solid alloy element consists essentially of about 80 percent of palladium and about 20 percent of nickel.